

# TOWN OF LA JARA

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Regular Meeting  
Date: June 9, 2022

A permanent set of these minutes are maintained in the Town Clerk's Office. Approved Minutes are also available on the web at [www.colorado.gov/townofajara](http://www.colorado.gov/townofajara)

## Call to Order

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 the Regular Meeting of the La Jara Town Board of Trustees was held as a hybrid meeting by trustees attending either in person or virtually. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Medina at 6:00 pm.

## Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Medina.

## Roll Call

Present in person were Trustees: Renner, Rendon, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez and Mayor Medina. Trustee Villagomez joined the meeting at 6:09 pm.

Absent: Trustees Chavez.

Also present were Chief Lujan, Town Attorneys Farish and Walker, Building Inspector Rodriguez, Maintenance Supervisor Jimmy Hinojos, Town Manager Zaragoza, and Town Clerk Pagnotta.

## Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Valdez moved to approve the agenda and added Community Outreach committee as item "v", under Appointment of committee members; seconded by Trustee Wagoner.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustee Renner, Rendon, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

## Consent Calendar

**Motion:** Trustee Wagoner moved to approve the consent calendar; seconded by Trustee Rendon.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustees Renner, Rendon, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

## Guests

Jessica Bogner and Jack Holman from Wall, Smith and Bateman, Inc. presented 2021 Financial Audit to the board of trustees.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez moved to accept the 2021 Financial Audit as presented; seconded by Trustee Wagoner.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustees Renner, Rendon, Villagomez, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Julian Espinoza addressed the board of trustees regarding purchasing the 5-acre plot that he is currently leasing for development of a BMX track. He presented a video promotion from USA BMX. He explained that he established the track as a 501(C)3 and any money that is generated will be put back into the corporation to purchase equipment such as bicycles, helmets, and safety equipment for kids. He has spent a considerable amount of time and money to build a track that will last and something the town can be proud of. He asked for volunteers to help complete the track. Mayor Medina stated that the board would need to discuss the sale of the 5-acre plot with the town attorneys. Town Manager Zaragoza stated that he would meet with Espinoza one-on-one to get some details.

### **Citizen Comments**

Citizen Larry Sisneros asked about the land at 312 South Main being used as a park and how the layout would work for housing.

### **New Business**

Businesses/Houses with shared water meters – Town Manager Zaragoza explained that there are a few businesses and houses that share a water meter further explaining that it would be best to have each building unit with its own meter. He suggested the tap fees be waived and the property owner pay the cost of the materials for installing each meter. He asked for time to gather more information and discuss this at the next meeting.

Appointment of Committee Members – Mayor Medina appointed Trustee Villagomez, Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez and herself to the serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission. She appointed Mayor Pro Tem Valdez to also serve on the Board of Adjustment Committee and will seek other community members to serve on this committee. Mayor appointed Trustee Chavez and Trustee Rendon to serve on the Code and Ordinance committee; Trustee Wagoner and Trustee Renner will serve on the Community Outreach Committee. Mayor Medina mentioned that they will work on an outline and guidelines detailing the purpose and focus of each committee.

### **Old Business**

No Old Business.

### **Reports**

#### **Town Manager Report**

Town Manager Zaragoza read through his written report. When discussing mosquito spraying, Building Inspector Rodriguez suggested spraying outside city limits and offered to pay a fee for spraying in his area. Town Manager Zaragoza suggested meeting with residents in this area to see if others are interested.

Town Manager Zaragoza asked Chief Lujan to explain that Sargent Campos and Officer Cortez will be doing traffic control on their days off to generate more traffic contacts. They each will be working four hours on their days off only be doing traffic control and not taking other calls.

#### **Town Attorney Report**

Town Attorney Walker thanked everyone for attending the training session and encouraged everyone to use the workbooks that were created for their own reference. He noted that he is looking forward to attending the CML Conference. He reported that he has been keeping an eye out on the opioid settlement and has not heard anything further from Alamosa Commissioner Laske. He reported that their office has been reviewing the Town's codes developing recommendations, focusing on infrastructure.

Attorney Farish recapped the training session that he presented to the trustees. He mentioned that all the trustees would get a copy of the resource manual that was the basis for the training session. He encouraged the trustees that were not present to read through the CML and DOLA orientation sections of

the manual. He also mentioned that they will begin focusing on updating the codes and want to help establish a vision for the town.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Valdez moved to approve the Town Manager and Town Attorneys reports; seconded by Trustee Wagoner.

**Vote Results:** Ayes: Trustees Rendon, Renner, Villagomez, Wagoner, Mayor Pro Tem Valdez and Mayor Medina.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

### **Police Report**

Police Chief Lujan submitted a written report and offered to answer any questions.

### **Public Works Report**

Maintenance Supervisor Jimmy Hinojos submitted a written report and offered to answer questions. Town Manager Zaragoza gave kudos to the maintenance staff for helping with the TVing of the sewer lines.

### **Clerk Report**

Town Clerk Pagnotta submitted a written report; noting that Kerrissa Romero has been hired as the new deputy clerk. She also reported that she completed and submitted the SRF Loan application for the sewer lagoon project. She stated that it was advised to request \$1 million to cover the entire project and if the Town receives any additional funding the unused portion of the loan can be rescinded.

### **Building Inspector Report**

Building Inspector Darrin Rodriguez submitted a written report and stated that there has not been a lot of requests for new building permits. He stated that he has been closing out some older projects that have been completed. He reported on the progress of Dollar General stating that Xcel Energy is 6 to 8 weeks out on installing the electric service to the building. Dollar General has requested to use a generator while they are waiting on Xcel so that they can open the store on schedule. Town Manager Zaragoza will contact the residents in the area to inform them of the possible noise from the generator.

### **Trustee Comments**

Trustee Rendon – Thanked the town on behalf of her and her dad for the flowers and card that was sent to them for the passing of her mother.

Trustee Renner – Stated that he wanted to get a feel from other trustees regarding support of the BMX track. He is in favor of providing something constructive for the youths to be involved in. He stated that he would rather hear motorcycles and see kids riding bikes than having them on drugs.

Trustee Villagomez – Stated his concerns with the noise from dirt bikes and the constant traffic in his area moving at a fast rate of speed. He mentioned that he saw someone getting water from the hydrant again. Town Manager Zaragoza explained that he addressed the issue with the individual. Trustee Villagomez thanked the maintenance department for helping with the water issue at the hospital.

Trustee Wagoner – Thanked the maintenance department for picking up the yard clippings for her parents. She reported that there will be an organizational meeting at the library for community involvement for the youth.

Mayor Pro Tem Valdez – Apologized for not attending the training session due to a family emergency. He thanked Attorney Farish and Attorney Walker for the training manual. He mentioned that a few years

back the town debruced eliminating terms limits, but it was determined that there is no record of this. He also mentioned having a discussion on police officers moonlighting for other agencies. Town Manager Zaragoza replied that he and Chief Lujan have already addressed this issue.

Trustee Villagomez added that the COVID numbers are increasing again and encouraged everyone to stay safe. Town Manager Zaragoza added that they are still testing at Town Hall on Thursdays.


Mayor Medina – Thanked everyone that attended the training session as it was very informative. She also wanted to remind everyone that when a meeting is mandatory it is important for everyone to attend. She stated that this training was scheduled two months in advance allowing everyone to plan in advance. She encouraged everyone to be committed to do what was important for the town. She reminded the trustees of the upcoming water and sewer rate study open house and asked that all attend to be supportive of their decision on the water and sewer rate increase. Mayor Medina also mentioned that there will be a shuttle service running from Antonito to Alamosa.

**Adjournment:**

**Mayor Pro Tem Valdez moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted by**

  
Town Clerk **Shawn Pagnotta**

  
**Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem**

